

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 GENEVA 08925

FOR IO BARRY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNDP
SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL - PETER BOURNE'S
UNDP SPEECH

1. FOLLOWING IS THE FINAL DRAFT OF DR. BOURNE'S SPEECH
EXPECTED TO BE DELIVERED WITH MINOR CHANGES. IF NO
MAJOR PROBLEMS, WILL GIVE AS DRAFTED.

2. BEGIN TEXT:
MR. PRESIDENT:

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE TODAY AND HAVE
THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS DISTINGUISHED BODY.
THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG REGARDED THE GOVERNING
COUNCIL SESSIONS AS IMPORTANT AND USEFUL OPPORTUNITIES
TO REAFFIRM OUR SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
AND ITS DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND
EXPERIENCES WITH OUR COLLEAGUES FROM ALL PARTS OF THE
GLOBE.

PRESIDENT CARTER IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO PROMOTING
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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND IS
PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING PROGRAMS WHICH
ADDRESS THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOP-
ING WORLD. THE PRESIDENT MET LAST YEAR WITH THE HEADS
OF SEVERAL OF THE UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REEMPHAS-
IZED HIS BELIEF THAT INTERNATIDNAL ORGANIZATIONS PLAY A
KEY ROLE IN ANY SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. OUR

ADMINISTRATION IS ACTIVELY COOPERATING WITH THE CONGRESS TO INCREASE OUR FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING NATIONS; A MAJOR PORTION OF THIS AID WILL BE FUNNELED THROUGH MULTILATERAL CHANNELS PARTICULARLY THE UNDP.

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS SOUGHT TO SHOW THE PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE HE ATTACHES TO THE WORK OF UN DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES BY SENDING HIS CABINET OFFICERS AND WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS TO REPRESENT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN MAJOR CONFERENCES OF THE UN AGENCIES INVOLVED. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO COME TO THIS SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FROM THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF AS PART OF THIS POLICY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF CABINET AND WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS IN THE WORK OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES HELPS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BETTER UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO THE NEEDS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THERE ARE CERTAIN BASIC HUMAN ASPIRATIONS WHICH EXIST EVERYWHERE NO MATTER WHERE PEOPLE LIVE OR WHAT POLITICAL STRUCTURE THEY ARE UNDER. THEY INCLUDE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER, PHYSICAL SUFFERING, WAR, PESTS, POLLUTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND SERVITUDE TO OTHERS, HAVE ADEQUATE SHELTER AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THEIR CHILDREN GROW UP AS HEALTHY AND EDUCATED INDIVIDUALS

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ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR SOCIETIES.

OUR EFFORTS TO MEET THESE ASPIRATIONS ARE LINKED TO, BUT ALSO TRANSCEND THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. THE MEANS AVAILABLE TO THIS ORGANIZATION, AND ITS MANDATE, ARE LIMITED. BUT UNDP CAN, NONETHELESS, HELP TO MEET SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THEM, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATED TO THE CAPACITY OF THE POOR TO PARTICIPATE IN, AND BENEFIT FROM, THEIR COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC GROWTH. AT THE SAME TIME WE FEEL A POPULATION THAT IS HEALTHY AND WELL FED IS INDISPENSABLE FOR A COUNTRY TO REALIZE ITS FULL ECONOMIC POTENTIAL. IN HIS REMARKS TO THIS ASSEMBLY ONE YEAR AGO, THE ADMINISTRATOR OF OUR AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EMPHASIZED OUR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD GIVE STRONG EMPHASIS TO MEETING THE BASIC NEEDS OF THE POOREST, THAT IS, ASSURING THE LEVELS OF NUTRITION, OF HEALTH AND OF EDUCATION WHICH WILL PERMIT THEM TO FULLY TAKE PART IN THE DECISION AND THE WORK OF NATION BUILDING. IN THIS VIEW, THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATION'S HUMAN RESOURCES IS AS IMPORTANT AN INVESTMENT

AS THE PROVISION OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE. THIS APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT IS NOT A RIVAL TO PROGRESS TOWARDS A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, BUT PROVIDES AN INDISPENSABLE INTERNAL DIMENSION.

WE, THE COUNTRIES WHICH SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN UNDP, HAVE A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY. WE ARE COLLECTIVELY ENGAGED IN A RACE AGAINST TIME TO ELIMINATE POVERTY AND PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT. WE ALL KNOW THAT THESE TASKS WILL BE WITH US FOR DECADES YET TIME IS

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RUNNING OUT BECAUSE REFORMS DELAYED TODAY MEAN MILLIONS OF YOUNG LIVES DESTROYED TOMORROW. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE VALID DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, WE URGE UNDP AND THE RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS TO EXAMINE THEIR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO TRY TO MAXIMIZE THEIR IMPACT UPON THE POOR MAJORITY.

OUR OWN BILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS INCREASINGLY EMPHASIZED GREATER HOST COUNTRY PARTICIPATION IN THE PLANNING OF DEVELOPMENT AID AND CLOSER COLLABORATION WITH THE UN SYSTEM AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. IT IS OUR FIRM BELIEF THAT NO MEANINGFUL CHANGE CAN OCCUR WITHOUT THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF ANY RESOURCES AVAILABLE.

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS IDENTIFIED TWO AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN WHICH AFFECT PARTICIPATION OF THE POOR IN DEVELOPMENT AND IS UNDERTAKING SPECIAL INITIATIVES IN THESE FIELDS. ONE IS THE FIELD OF INTER-

NATIONAL HEALTH; THE SECOND IS FOOD AND NUTRITION.

EACH YEAR MORE THAN 15.6 MILLION CHILDREN DIE BEFORE
THEY REACH THE AGE OF FIVE, 15.1 MILLION OF THEM IN
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DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE
ARE AFFLICTED BY SUCH DISEASES AS MALARIA, LEPROSY, AND
SCHISTOSOMIASIS WHICH EXTRACT A TERRIBLE TOLL ON HUMAN
SUFFERING AND WASTED PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL.

MY GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO ENHANCE AND STRENGTHEN ITS
COMMITMENT IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND
LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH OUR COLLEAGUES FROM OTHER
COUNTRIES AND WITH MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS TO
ELIMINATE THE SCOURGE OF DISEASE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
WE WERE PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED TO HEAR THE ADMINISTRA-
TOR EMPHASIZE THE UNDP'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THIS
EFFORT.

WORLD HUNGER CONTINUES TO BE A PRESSING PROBLEM. THE
WORLD BANK ESTIMATES THAT 700 MILLION PEOPLE ARE
SERIOUSLY MALNOURISHED. THEY ARE AMONG THE 1.2 BILLION
WITHOUT ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER OR PUBLIC HEALTH
SERVICES. A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE UNDERNOUR-
ISHED ARE INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND WOMEN, PARTICULARLY
PREGNANT AND NURSING MOTHERS. AND, OF COURSE, THEY ARE
ALMOST ALL LOCATED IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THEREFORE, AS A SECOND INITIATIVE WE PLAN TO ESTABLISH
A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON WORLD HUNGER WHICH WILL
MAKE SPECIFIC, PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON MEANS OF
ENSURING ADEQUATE FOOD AND NUTRITION FOR ALL PEOPLE.

THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO TARGET ITS DEVELOP-
MENT ASSISTANCE, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON INCREASING
FOOD PRODUCTION AND IMPROVING NUTRITION AND HEALTH IN
AN INTEGRATED AND BROAD-BASED ATTACK ON POVERTY. OUR
APPROACH WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE WELL ESTABLISHED
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EMPHASIS GIVEN BY THE UN SYSTEM AND ESPECIALLY THE
UNDP, TO THE NEEDS OF THE POOREST PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY
THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

NOW, MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS A FEW AREAS

AFFECTING UNDP THAT ARE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO MY GOVERNMENT.

THE FIRST IS THE STRENGTHENING OF UNDP'S COORDINATION ROLE. IN SURVEYING UNDP ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES, WE HAVE NOTICED A DISTURBING TREND TOWARDS INCREASED FRAGMENTATION OF EFFORT. IN ONE RECENT INSTANCE IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE HIMSELF WAS IGNORANT OF MORE THAN HALF OF THE RESOURCES BEING PROVIDED BY DONORS THROUGH UN AGENCIES. MANY OF THE FUNDS IN TRUST WERE QUITE SMALL AND TARGETED TO OVERLY RESTRICTIVE PROGRAM GOALS. THE HOST COUNTRY ITSELF WAS NO MORE AWARE THAN THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOME OF THESE PROGRAMS. THE RESULT OF THIS KIND OF PROLIFERATION IS THAT THE HOST GOVERNMENT CANNOT ENGAGE IN EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND AS A RESULT BOTH DONORS AND RECIPIENTS ARE GETTING LESS VALUE THAN THEY SHOULD FROM THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE.

THERE IS NOW CLOSER RAPPORT BETWEEN UNDP AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THANKS TO THE INITIATIVE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR IN SETTING UP THE AGENCY TASK FORCE AT UNDP HEADQUARTERS AND TO THOSE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF AGENCIES WHO DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EXPERIMENT. IT IS HOPED THAT THE FULL PANOPLY OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WILL SOON SHARE IN THIS EXPERIENCE. THE SET

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OF SPECIAL STUDIES SUBMITTED TO THIS COUNCIL IS CLEAR EVIDENCE OF A CLOSER COLLABORATIVE STYLE BETWEEN ALL ELEMENTS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, WITH UNDP AS ITS

FOCUS.

THIS COORDINATION DOES NOT EXTEND, HOWEVER, TO OTHER ACTIVITIES EXECUTED BY UN AGENCIES BUT NOT FUNDED BY UNDP. WE BELIEVE THAT ALL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INVOLVING UN AGENCIES SHOULD BE COORDINATED BY UNDP AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL. A SOLUTION TO THIS LONGSTANDING PROBLEM IS FURNISHED BY THE 1977 GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESTRUCTURING RESOLUTION, WHICH PROVIDES THAT "ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, OVER-ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND COORDINATION OF, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT CARRIED OUT AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL SHOULD BE ENTRUSTED TO A SINGLE OFFICIAL. . ." THIS SHOULD BE THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE.

THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IS VIEWED BY THE UNITED STATES AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF UNDP IN THE INTERESTS OF OVERALL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS. WE WELCOME AND SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATING COMMITTEE THAT THE UNDP

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RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD NORMALLY BE DESIGNATED AS THE PERSON AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL TO COORDINATE ALL UN ACTIVITIES.

ALONG WITH THE GRANTING OF COORDINATIVE AUTHORITY, WE MUST STRENGTHEN UNDP'S MANAGEMENT OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS AT ALL LEVELS. THE 1977 RESTRUCTURING RESOLUTION TALKS OF NEED TO "ACHIEVE MAXIMUM UNIFORMITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY, PERSONNEL, AND PLANNING PROCEDURES." THE UNDP AND THE UN AGENCIES SHOULD CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

IMPROVED COORDINATION OF UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUIRES NATIONS TO BUILD UPON THE STRENGTHS OF UNDP AND TO RECOGNIZE AND ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE WEAKNESSES WHERE THEY MAY EXIST. IT ALSO REQUIRES STRONG, CONCERTED ACTION TOWARD RELATED ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE UNDP FRAMEWORK. IN LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES MEMBER STATES SHOULD:

- CONTINUE TO SUSTAIN THE UNDP AS THE MAJOR CHANNEL FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE UN SYSTEM AND AVOID CREATING NEW SPECIAL FUNDS EXCEPT WHEN PROVEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY;
- SUPPORT A STRENGTHENED ROLE FOR THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE (L) BY MAKING THEM

THE FOCAL POINT IN THE RECIPIENT COUNTRY FOR
LIAISON AMONG AGENCIES ENGAGED IN DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES, (2) BY INVOLVING THEM
AT ALL STAGES OF PROJECT FORMULATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION, AND (3) BY ENCOURAGING UNDP'S
DECENTRALIZATION OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT;
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- INSTRUCT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO THE OTHER
UN AGENCIES TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF UNDP
COORDINATION AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL;
- ENCOURAGE THE UNDP, WORKING WITH OTHER
RELEVANT UN BODIES, TO ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE
DEFINITIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR ASSEMBLING
TIMELY, COMPREHENSIVE AND COMPARABLE DATA ON
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND, WHERE
POSSIBLE, DO SO FOR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE
PROJECTS; AND LASTLY,
- SUPPORT AN ENHANCED ROLE FOR THE UNDP IN
SETTING TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES
FOR PROJECT DESIGN, MONITORING, AND EVALU-
ATION, IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS
OF UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TO HELP
IMPROVE EVALUATION WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM AS A
WHOLE.

EVALUATION MERITS INDIVIDUAL AND SPECIAL EMPHASIS. THE
UN SYSTEM MUST STRESS THE NEED FOR THOROUGH EVALUATION
OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS MORE
EFFECTIVE EVALUATION BENEFITS RECIPIENT COUNTRIES MORE
THAN DONORS. THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR MULTILATERAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ARE LIMITED AND THE NEEDS ARE
GREAT. BETTER USE OF THESE RESOURCES PROVIDE IMMEDIATE
BENEFITS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WASTE MEANS LOST
OPPORTUNITIES AND SLOWER GROWTH RATES. BECAUSE OF ITS
CENTRAL POSITION IN THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, UNDP
SHOULD PLAY A STRONGER LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE MUCH NEEDED
IMPROVEMENT OF EVALUATION IN THE ENTIRE SYSTEM.

I HAVE A FEW GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE ADMINISTRATOR'S

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REPORT ON RECENT ACTIVITIES, AND ON U.S. VIEWS AS TO
THE FUTURE.

IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF 1975
AND 1976 ARE NOW SQUARELY BEHIND US. UNDP'S RESOURCES
ARE GROWING AT A SUBSTANTIAL RATE--A TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS'
CONFIDENCE IN ADMINISTRATOR MORSE AND IN THE PROGRAM
ITSELF. THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT SHOWS CLEARLY THAT
THE IMPACT OF 1975-1976 CONTINUED TO BE FELT IN 1977
WITH TOTAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES AGAIN FALLING. UNDP'S
SHARE OF TOTAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE UN
IS NOW LESS THAN HALF. THIS IS A DISTURBING TREND. WE
NOTE WITH OPTIMISM THAT NET PROJECT APPROVALS HAVE
RISEN DRAMATICALLY IN 1977 AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE
SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER PROJECT EXECUTION IN 1978 AND
LATER YEARS.

WE URGE UNDP AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO INCREASE
THE PACE OF IDENTIFYING, APPROVING AND IMPLEMENTING
SOUND AND IMAGINATIVE PROJECTS. THE NEED IS THERE, THE
RESOURCES ARE THERE. MOREOVER, A GREATER RATE OF
IMPLEMENTATION SHOULD SPUR DONORS TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TO
MEET THE 14 GROWTH RATE GOAL.

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TO ASSIST IN THIS PROCESS, DONORS, INCLUDING THE UNITED
STATES, ARE CONSIDERING VARIOUS FORMS OF GIVING UNDP
MULTI-YEAR INDICATIONS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO SMOOTH
THE GROWTH RATE IN PROJECT DELIVERY, TO ALLOW FOR LONG-
RANGE RESOURCES. THE RETURN TO HIGHER RATES OF RESOURCE
UTILIZATION BY UNDP WILL BE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR AS
DONORS EXAMINE THIS POSSIBILITY.
TO REACH THE POOR MORE EFFECTIVELY WE MUST LOOK AT THE
DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS WITHIN UNDP ITSELF. HERE I AM
GOING TO BE FRANK IN EXPRESSING MY COUNTRY'S CONCERN

THAT A FEW DEVELOPED OR VERY WEALTHY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE DRAWING SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS FROM UNDP. THESE RESOURCES COULD BE RELEASED TO HELP SURMOUNT DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS IN LESS FORTUNATE COUNTRIES. MY GOVERNMENT STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT THESE FEW COUNTRIES SHOULD JOIN THOSE WHO HAVE WITHDRAWN VOLUNTARILY FROM RECEIVING UNDP FUNDS. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THESE COUNTRIES NEED FOREGO THE SERVICES OF UNDP WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED. IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNDP PROGRAMS THAT DEVELOPED OR HIGH INCOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN AND DO REIMBURSE UNDP FOR SERVICES PROVIDED.

ALSO RELATED TO UNDP'S FINANCIAL HEALTH IS THE CONTINUING ACCUMULATION OF NON-USEABLE, NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCIES. WE WERE ENCOURAGED TO HEAR FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR THAT SOME STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO USE THESE RESOURCES. WE HOPE THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THE UPCOMING YEAR. THE ISSUE SHOULD BE EXAMINED AT THE MID-CYCLE REVIEW AT THE 26TH GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION.

THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT MENTIONS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD. SINCE WE WILL NOT HAVE ANOTHER
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OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS, I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO URGE UNDP TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE IN PREPARATIONS FOR THIS EVENT. HEALTHY WELL-EDUCATED CHILDREN BECOME PRODUCTIVE ADULTS WHO CONTRIBUTE MORE EFFECTIVELY THAN ANY OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRIES. TOGETHER WITH UNICEF AND THE OTHER UN AGENCIES, UNDP HAS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT AND PLAN LONG-TERM PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO OVERCOME THE WORST ASPECTS OF POVERTY BY THE YEAR 2000 AND TO OFFER THE CHILDREN OF TODAY A BETTER TOMORROW.

WE AGREE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN EXPANDED ROLE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM. IT HAS EXCEPTIONAL POTENTIAL, WHICH WE FEEL HAS NOT BEEN FULLY REALIZED.

WOMEN PLAY ESSENTIAL ROLES ALL OVER THE WORLD IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION AS WELL AS IN FAMILY AND VILLAGE LIFE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WOMEN NOT BE LEFT OUT OF BASIC PLANNING AND THAT THEY BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRIES. MY GOVERNMENT IS PLEASED AT THE STRIDES TAKEN BY UNDP IN URGING THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND IN THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF WOMEN ON THE PROFESSIONAL

STAFF.

IN CONCLUSION, WE CAN STATE WITH ASSURANCE THAT THE
PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT IS PROCEEDING AT AN ACCELERATED
AND UNPRECEDENTED RATE. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE
HAVE DONE ENOUGH; TO THE CONTRARY, IT IS A RECOGNITION
THAT MORE MUST BE DONE IN THE FUTURE. GAINS HAVE BEEN

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RECORDED DURING THE PAST YEAR: UNDP IS AGAIN ON SOUND
FINANCIAL FOOTING; DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED NATIONS ARE
WORKING MORE CLOSELY THAN EVER TO FIND MEANS OF DEALING
WITH DISEASE, HUNGER AND POVERTY; THERE IS GREATER
UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
IN THIS PROCESS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL NATIONS AND
ALL PEOPLES. YET MUCH REMAINS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO REPORT TO HIM ON THE
WORK OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE ENTIRE UNITED
NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM WHEN I RETURN TO WASHINGTON.
I WILL ASSURE HIM OF THE EXCEPTIONAL VITALITY OF THE
UNDP, AND THE DEDICATION OF ALL OF THE GOVERNMENTS
REPRESENTED HERE TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC JUSTICE BETWEEN
NATIONS AND THE ALLEVIATION OF INDIVIDUAL POVERTY TO
CREATE A WORLD FOR THE FUTURE IN WHICH PEOPLE ANYWHERE
ON THE GLOBE WILL HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE TO ACHIEVE
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY.

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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